

Gives His Life To Save Buddies

Medal of Honor Awarded To Hero Who Faced Hail Of Fire To Help Buddies

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Staff Sergeant DeFranzo, Second Marine Infantry, man who gave his life to clear a blazing trench of enemy machine guns, and in the process saved the lives of several of his buddies, has been awarded posthumously the medal of honor by the War Department.

The action was among the deadly fighting of the First Marine Division, which landed on Guadalcanal, Aug. 7, 1942, and fought its way up the island to the First Infantry Division. Staff Sergeant DeFranzo was killed on June 10, 1942, while leading his company in an attack on a Japanese position. He was killed by a hail of fire from a machine gun which he had just destroyed.

"He started forward to help a wounded scout and it was impossible that any man could advance under that fire without getting hit," the citation read. "The machine gun and rifle all opened up on him.

"But he went through it, his rifle blazing. He picked up the wounded scout and carried him to the shelter of a hedgehog that he had just destroyed. There an aid man was able to dress the scout's wounds and at the same time he noticed that Staff Sergeant DeFranzo was wounded. But with a grin, and a gesture of refusal with his arm, he was off again.

Heads Into Hill of Fire.

"He entered the hill and led an advance himself."

While the infantrymen of his company took up the advance, they watched the slender figure ahead continue to charge directly into the rim of enemy fire.

"One by one the emplacements became silent," Captain Russell's account continues. "His advance was marked by enemy dead."

"But he was not invulnerable to the hail of enemy fire. Several times he was hit and his loss of blood was great."

"At one point he fell and his arm was waving in a forward gesture as he went down. His squad saw no more of him until they reached a point 20 yards from where he had gone down.

"Then, up he came, limping and stumbling, but with his rifle blazing—and once more he was in front. The intensity of the fire was too much and spirit could no longer carry the body. He was struck and but his final efforts were expended in an achievement of great importance to his company."

He staggered a last few yards and he fell. He was several hand grenades into a machine gun nest firing on him, destroying the weapon and crew."

The official citation reads:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life, above and beyond the call of duty, on June 10, 1942, near Vau-don, France. As scouts were advancing across an open field, the enemy suddenly opened fire with several machine guns and hit one of the men. Staff Sergeant DeFranzo courageously moved out in the open to the aid of the wounded scout and himself wounded but brought the man to safety."

"Refusing aid, Staff Sergeant DeFranzo reentered the open field and led the advance upon the enemy. There were always at least two machine guns bringing unrelenting fire upon him, but Staff Sergeant DeFranzo kept going forward, firing into the enemy and one by one the enemy replacements became silent. While advancing he was again wounded, but continued on until he was within 100 yards of the enemy position and even as he fell, he kept firing his rifle and waving his men forward."

"When his company came up behind him, Staff Sergeant DeFranzo, despite his many severe wounds, suddenly raised himself and once more moved forward in the lead of his men until he was again hit by enemy fire. In a final gesture of indomitable courage, he threw several grenades at the enemy machine gun position and completely destroyed the gun. In this action Staff Sergeant DeFranzo lost his life, but by bearing the brunt of the enemy fire in leading the attack, he prevented a delay in the assault which would have been of considerable benefit to the foe, and he made possible his company's advance with a minimum of casualties. The extraordinary heroism and magnificent devotion to duty displayed by Staff Sergeant DeFranzo was a great inspiration to all about him, and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces."

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Corliss Archer, played by Janet Waldo, has become America's teen-age over-entertainer, charming her way to the hearts of radio listeners and her way to the hearts of moviegoers. Prior to her radio debut, Corliss had already become an American favorite in the popular series "Corliss in Good Places" on the radio. The unpredictable Corliss was created by her partner, "Miles and Miles." The unpredictable Corliss was created by her partner, "Miles and Miles." The unpredictable Corliss was created by her partner, "Miles and Miles."

British Service Women Will Be Sent Overseas

LONDON.—The government has decided to send members of the women's ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service) overseas. This was announced by James Craig, war minister, in the house of commons. ATS women will, however, be sent to Burma or West Africa and to India only as volunteers. Volunteers under 19 years or those with children under 14 will not be accepted.



"I HAD THE MOST WONDERFUL DREAM LAST NIGHT—I DREAMED EVERYBODY HAD FILED THEIR INCOME TAX RETURNS EARLY!"

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June: Mrs. H. P. Davis and Mrs. Lewis Winters, hostesses. Leader, Miss Louise Gills, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, Mrs. H. F. Jones, Sidney L. Lee, host.

July: Hostess: Miss Mabel C. Harris, Gladstone, Leader, Mrs. Wiley M. Morris, Thomas Bragg, Confederate Attorney General, succeeding Judah P. Benjamin in 1861.

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January: Matthew Montaine Maury, Mrs. L. C. Crawley, Thomas J. Jackson, Mr. N. R. Fetherston, Col. Thomas S. Borel, Miss Jones read Mr. Fetherston's contest paper. Hostess: Miss M. Anna Jones.

February: Medames L. Crawley and C. F. James, hostesses. Leaders: Mrs. R. C. Moore, Hon. Robt. Tombs, first Secretary of State, Secretary of War, Mrs. W. P. Coleman, George Wythe Randolph, Conf. Sec. of War, Mrs. W. P. Coleman, leader. History of Appomattox families who contributed to the Provisional Congress and Robert Tombs, first Conf. Sec. of State.

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